

REQUIREMENTS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD, BIRTH THROUGH AGE 8 ENDORSEMENT

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – CERTIFICATION UNIT

Phoenix Office:	P.O. Box 6490, Phoenix, AZ 85005	Telephone: (602) 542-4367
Tucson Office:	400 W. Congress St., #118, Tucson, AZ 85701	Telephone: (520) 628-6326
Flagstaff Office:	2384 N. Steves Blvd., Box-C, Flagstaff, AZ 86004	Telephone: (928) 679-8117

ENDORSEMENT IS OPTIONAL, BUT RECOMMENDED FOR INDIVIDUALS TEACHING IN PUBLIC SCHOOL EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS SERVING CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH KINDERGARTEN WHO ARE NOT OTHERWISE CERTIFIED IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION. WHEN COMBINED WITH AN ARIZONA ELEMENTARY EDUCATION TEACHING CERTIFICATE OR AN ARIZONA SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHING CERTIFICATE, IT MAY BE USED IN LIEU OF A STANDARD EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CERTIFICATE. PUBLIC SCHOOL EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, HALF DAY AND FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS, EARLY CHILDHOOD BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS PURSUANT TO A.R.S. 15-1251, FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAMS FOR PRESCHOOL CHILDREN PURSUANT TO ARS 15-191.01, AND PUBLIC SCHOOL-ADMINISTERED EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS FUNDED IN WHOLE OR PART WITH FEDERAL FUNDS, SUCH AS THE HEAD START OF EVEN START PROGRAMS, PROVIDED NOTHING IN THESE RULES CONFLICTS WITH THE TERMS OF THE FEDERAL GRANT. EXTENDED DAY CHILD CARE PROGRAMS PROVIDED BY LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES ARE NOT CONSIDERED EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR PURPOSES OF THIS RULE UNLESS THE PROGRAM MEETS THE DEFINITION OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM SET FORTH ABOVE.

➤ All requirements for the Early Childhood, Birth through Age 8 endorsement must be met. Fees are not refundable.

1. A **photocopy** of your valid Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card (plastic) issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
2. A valid Arizona **Elementary** or Arizona **Special Education** teaching certificate.
3. Twenty-one (21) semester hours of early childhood education courses from an accredited institution to include all of the following areas of study: 1) foundations of early childhood education; 2) child guidance and classroom management; 3) characteristics and quality practices for typical and atypical behaviors of young children; 4) child growth and development including, health, safety and nutrition; 5) child, family, cultural and community relationships; 6) developmentally appropriate instructional methodologies for teaching language, math, science, social studies and the arts; 7) early language and literacy development; 8) assessing, monitoring and reporting progress of young children.
4. A minimum of 8 semester hours of practicum including:
 - a. 4 semester hours in a supervised field experience, practicum, internship, or student teaching setting serving children birth-preschool. One year of full-time verified teaching experience with children in birth-preschool may substitute for this student teaching experience. (Please submit a letter on official letterhead from a District Superintendent or Program Director of a school-based education program or center-based program licensed by the Department of Health Services or regulated by tribal or military authorities to verify teaching experience); and
 - b. 4 semester hours in a supervised student teaching setting serving children in kindergarten-grade 3. One year of full-time teaching experience with children in kindergarten-grade 3 in an accredited school may substitute for this student teaching experience. (Please submit a letter on official letterhead from a District Superintendent or Personnel Director to verify teaching experience).
5. A passing score on the **Early Childhood Subject Knowledge** portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment (AEPA).

➤ Teachers with a valid Arizona Elementary or Arizona Special Education teaching certificate **as of July 1, 2006** meet the requirements for the Early Childhood, Birth through Age 8 endorsement with evidence of the following:

1. A minimum of three years infant/toddler, preschool or kindergarten-grade 3 classroom teaching experience within 10 years prior to July 1, 2009; and
2. A passing score on the **Early Childhood Subject Knowledge** portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment (AEPA).

* PURSUANT TO A.R.S. 15-534.03, EACH EDUCATOR MUST NOTIFY THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS WITHIN 30 DAYS. CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE, WWW.AZED.GOV/CERTIFICATION. ALL DOCUMENTATION, INCLUDING TRANSCRIPTS, BECOMES THE PROPERTY OF THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND WILL NOT BE RETURNED. REQUIREMENTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND ARE FULLY REFERENCED IN THE ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES AND ADMINISTRATIVE CODE.